Representative Louise M. Slaughter
Chairwoman, House Committee on Rules
Representing New York's 28th District

PRESS RELEAS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rep. Slaughter Announces $2.75 Million for Rochester Institute of Technology and Delphi for Fuel Cell Development

ROCHESTER, NY – Congresswoman Louise M. Slaughter (D-Fairport), Chairwoman of the House Rules Committee, today joined Dr. William Destler, President of RIT, Mr. Steven Shaffer, Delphi Chief Engineer - Fuel Cells, and Dr. Nabil Nasr, Director of RIT's Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies (CIMS), to announce $2.75 million in federal funds for fuel Cell development.

The funding was secured by Rep. Slaughter in the FY 2008 Department of Defense Appropriations Bill for a joint project between RIT and Delphi to accelerate manufacturability and application of Solid Oxide Fuel Cells (SOFC) in the armed forces.

"My top priority in Congress is to bolster our region's economic advantage and keep us on the cutting edge of emerging industries," said Rep. Slaughter. **"The fuel cell industry is just one of the new high-tech sectors that hold tremendous promise for the Rochester community. Because Delphi**
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and companies like them,

made the choice to locate their best researchers in our backyard, we have the potential to be a leading player in fuel cell development.
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"These funds represent one of the first tangible successes in our efforts to accelerate fuel cell development by linking private sector partners and local academic institutions," continued Slaughter.

"This is a tremendous example of government-university-industry collaboration that leverages the expertise at CIMS and the new Golisano Institute for Sustainability, as well as our partners at Delphi," **RIT President William Destler said.** "We appreciate the efforts of Congresswoman Slaughter and Senators Schumer and Clinton to successfully include this funding in the defense appropriations bill."

The RIT CIMS/Delphi project seeks to accelerate the application of SOFC technology into

stationary and mobile systems within the U.S. Department of Defense. A SOFC is a highly-efficient electrochemical generator that produces environmentally-friendly electricity directly from currently-available fuels. This work builds upon Delphi's fuel cell development efforts and will utilize CIMS' state-of-the-art sensors-monitoring technology to evaluate the quality of fuel-cell powered systems.

"We are extremely grateful to Congresswoman Slaughter and our Senate representatives for their help in securing federal assistance for our joint research efforts with Delphi," **said Nabil Nasr, assistant provost for Academic Affairs and Director of both CIMS and the Golisano Institute.**
"It is my hope that this research will amplify our ability to accelerate the implementation of new fuel cell technologies that will support numerous military applications. This will also enhance the development of sustainable energy systems for future commercial applications."

"Situational awareness, future weapons and next-generation protection systems will require more electric power generated quietly and at higher efficiency," **said Russ Bosch, Delphi's Director of Fuel Cell Development.**
"The fuel cell is a preferable technology for meeting these needs because the cell's higher efficiency decreases the amount of fuel that needs to be transported and the SOFC's quiet operation improves 'stealth' capabilities. Delphi thanks Congresswoman Slaughter and Senators Schumer and Clinton for championing the efforts to obtain this funding."

BACKGROUND:

This project will specifically:

- Establish a Cooperative Industry/Academic Fuel Cell Test, Development, and Demonstration site to provide fundamental research and technology development in the performance, durability, and reliability of Solid Oxide fuel cells using accelerated life-cycle testing.

- Establish a Cooperative Industry/Academic Pilot Facility for High Volume Assembly / Remanufacturing to extend the knowledge on process and product engineering, design for

manufacture, as well as merging fuel cell system design with end-of-life issues.

- Establish a **Modular Solid-Oxide Fuel Cell Manufacturing Readiness Demonstration** to develop and demonstrate the manufacturing processes and materials required to address the military's need to transition the solid oxide fuel cell (SOFC) electrical power generation technology from its current laboratory state to a state of technology readiness for field testing.

About RIT CIMS

This new project builds on CIMS' previous projects with the U.S. military, which earned the National Center for Advanced Technologies' 2004 Defense Manufacturing Excellence Award, as well as its ongoing, multi-year research in alternative fuel technologies with the U.S. department of Transportation. They will also enhance RIT's research and education goals in the broader field of sustainability through the newly founded Golisano Institute for Sustainability. The Golisano Institute for Sustainability at RIT offers the premier platform for universities, corporations and governments around the globe to collaborate in the creation of innovative education and technology development systems related to sustainable design, life-cycle engineering, remanufacturing and pollution prevention.

Founded in 1829, RIT is an internationally recognized leader in professional and career-oriented education enrolling more than 15,000 students in eight colleges. More information can be found at www.rit.edu .

About Delphi Fuel Cells

With more than 10 years of fuel cell experience, Delphi Corp. is recognized as an industry leader in fuel cell technology. By leveraging its global expertise in engine and thermal management, power conditioning and control electronics, heat exchangers, sensor technology and lean manufacturing, Delphi is able to provide a complete SOFC system solution. This project furthers Delphi's support of introducing alternative energy technology for the U.S. military. Other U.S. Department of Defense project awards have been based upon Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command (TACOM), Tank and Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center (TARDEC) and National Automotive Center

(NAC) initiatives. More information can be found at www.delphi.com .

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